

REMARKS

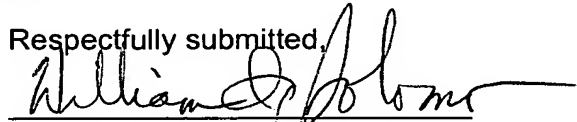
Applicants have amended their claims, prior to calculation of the filing fee, in order to delete multiple dependency, including improper multiple dependency.

In addition, Applicants are adding new claims 20-40 to the application. Claim 20, dependent on claim 19, recites that the metal wiring includes copper alone or a laminate structure of copper and a barrier metal. Claims 21-40 have been added in light of deletion of multiple dependency of the original claims, to provide claims of scopes corresponding to those in the original claims. More specifically, claims 21-40 recite subject matter expressly recited in claims 3-13 and 15-19, but are single-dependent claims which are dependent on claims other than the dependency in presently amended claims 3-13 and 15-19.

Entry of the present amendments, prior to calculation of the filing fee; and, subsequent thereto, examination of the above-identified application in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 396.43501X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WIS/kmh
Attachments